

Minutes of the Meeting of ASNM

An extended meeting of the Task Group of Asian School of Nuclear Medicine (ASNM) was held on 6th February 2003 at 1.00 pm at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel, Dhaka, Bangladesh. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Mizanul Hasan, Coordinator, ASNM Task Group. The following members were present in the meeting.

1. Dr. Mizanul Hasan – Bangladesh, Coordinator, ASNM Task Group
2. Dr. Jerry M. Obaldo – Philippines, Member, ASNM Task Group
3. Dr. Shuji Tanada – Japan, Member, ASNM Task Group
4. Dr. Song-Moo Lim - Korea Republic of, Member, ASNM Task Group
5. Dr. A. K. Padhy – IAEA, Member, ASNM Task Group
6. Dr. J. C. Marchio - France, CIS, Invited Member, ASNM Task Group
7. Dr. Myung- Chul Lee – Korea Republic of, Chairman, ARCCNM, Observer
8. Dr. M. A. Karim - Bangladesh, Observer
9. Dr. June Key Chung – Korea Republic of, Observer
10. Dr. Felix X Sundram - Singapore, Observer
11. Dr. John S. Masjhur – Indonesia, Observer
12. Dr. Zuo-Xiang He - China, Observer
13. Dr. Cheuk Man Tong - Hong Kong, Observer
14. Dr. Hee-Seung Bom - Korea Republic of, Observer
15. Ms. Sung Woon Hong - Korea Republic of, Observer
16. Ms. Soon-Yong Lee, ARCCNM Staff
17. Ms. Youn- Joo Han, ARCCNM Staff

Dr. Hasan welcomed all the participants in Dhaka and thanked them to join the meeting. He made a brief statement about the past activities of the Task Group. He told that the Task Group for Asian School of Nuclear Medicine was formed at the first working group meeting of ARCCNM held in Bangkok in October 2001. Since then several meetings and discussions have been held but nothing concrete could be made out. He hoped that at least in this Dhaka meeting we would be able to find out some paths to start the school. Especially he mentioned that Dr. A. K. Padhy of IAEA who is also working for IAEA School of Nuclear Medicine was present in the meeting and we would get some practical ideas from him. Dr. Hasan also specially thanked Dr. Padhy for his kind agreement to work in the ASNM Task Group.

In his introductory remarks Dr. Hasan informed the meeting that in the First Annual General Meeting of ARCCNM held in Dalian, China in June 2002, a separate session was held on “Asian School of Nuclear Medicine”. The topic was discussed in length by the general participants of the meeting from different

countries of the region. In the same meeting Dr. Padhy of IAEA also floated his idea of IAEA School of Nuclear Medicine. Formation of ASNM was again discussed in the Manila meeting of ARCCNM in September 2002. In Manila meeting there was a proposal for communication with European School of Nuclear Medicine to explore their administrative ways and academic curriculum so that we can take their experience in starting Asian School. Dr. Marchio offered himself to contact with ESNM and collect necessary papers. Dr. Hasan told that Dr. Marchio contacted ESNM but they were reluctant to supply any paper. So Dr. Marchio did a request to Prof. Lee to write a formal letter to them. Prof. Lee told that already he had some communication with them and now they will give those papers.

At this stage Dr. Hasan requested Dr. Padhy to express his ideas by which we can start ASNM or we can link ASNM with proposed IAEA School of Nuclear Medicine.

Dr. Padhy first thanked ARCCNM to incorporate him in the ASNM task group. He gave the meeting a total picture of IAEA School of Nuclear Medicine and the main idea and objectives behind these schools. He told that there is a strong possibility that ASNM can function as an IAEA School of Nuclear Medicine for Asian region. He expressed his willingness to work his best for this purpose.

Dr. Padhy kept his opinion that we should start first and only when it is in reality, many avenues will open or we can tackle as we face the problems. In this respect he gave the example of 'World Journal of Nuclear Medicine'. He also suggested that ASNM could give credit hours to the IAEA or other Regional Courses on Nuclear Medicine held in Asia and that is one of the way we can start. He informed the meeting that each year IAEA sends 30-40 medical doctors to different places of the world for fellowship and training programs and out of them 10 - 15 are from Asian countries. He told that these fellows might be trained through Asian School of Nuclear Medicine. He also suggested that some diploma or M. Sc courses might also be run through ASNM, affiliated with some university by which the School will be more meaningful. He also gave some example of Philippines, Uruguay and some other countries. Finally he commented that there is no end of suggestions, let us start.

Suggestion came in the meeting that ASNM can be affiliated with UN University in Japan. But Dr. Shuji Tanada informed that UN University is not related with medical fields and so ASNM cannot be linked with that. Rather he emphasized that ASNM should function as an academic wing of ARCCNM.

At this stage Prof. Lee told that we are talking almost similar type of things for the last two years. Dr. Hasan emphasized that we should select the country first where the school will be located. The meeting named Thailand, Philippines and Singapore as three prospective candidates. After a through discussion the members of the meeting unanimously selected Philippines and Singapore as the

two most suitable countries for ASNM. The meeting also thanked Thailand and specially Dr. Anchali Krisanachinda for her initial response and work done for the proposed school.

The meeting decided to give responsibility to Dr. San Luis and Dr. Felix Sundram of Philippines and Singapore respectively to talk each other and finally select the place.

Dr. Felix Sundram agreed that he will talk personally with Dr. San Luis and they will settle the issue of the host country for ASNM. The meeting fixed a time schedule of 4 weeks to settle the matter. Dr. Jerry Obaldo told that he would discuss the thing with Dr. San Luis immediately after his returning to Philippines.

Dr. Lim emphasized that Dean of the school should be nominated immediately. The meeting took the resolution that after selection of the country either Dr. San Luis or Dr. Felix Sundram will be the first Dean of the school and the Dean will take necessary steps to start the school.

Dr. Padhy told that we should prepare the constitution of the school. In this respect he suggested that we could go through the constitution of Indian College of Nuclear Medicine for guidelines. There was a proposal in the meeting that there may be some sub-centers of the schools located in different countries and head of those institutions may act as Vice-deans.

Regarding budget of the school the meeting observed that the school should try to survive at its own income. However, ARCCNM should support the school initially.

After a long discussion the meeting ended at 5.00 pm with a concluding remarks from

Dr. Hasan. He thanked everybody for their cooperation and contribution in taking some important resolutions in the meeting for the formation of Asian School of Nuclear Medicine. He expressed his hope that the ASNM will come into reality this time.

Dr. Mizanul Hasan
Coordinator
Task Group for ASNM
ARCCNM